Minutes Meeting of 7/20/04

The minutes of the June 15, 2004 meeting were approved.

All Task Force members were present with the exception of Rep. Scott Jensen. Dan Schooff was introduced as a member of the Task Force since becoming the Administrator of the Wisconsin Department of Administration Division of Energy.

The Task Force was advised of the Governor's appreciation for the work done by the Task Force and for the quality and substance of its recommendations.

Administrative Model Workgroup

George Edgar and Kristine Euclide presented the Administrative Model Workgroup's recommendations. Questions and discussion followed, including regarding the need to view the recommendation as a package and the group's understanding that modifying elements of the recommendation would undermine the consensus. Discussion also involved funding security, the mechanism for the PSC to set the funding levels and the role of the legislature in setting these funding levels. Brian Rude clarified that the Commitment to Community programs would continue to function independently of this new structure and that "funding equity" applies to investor-owned utility customers only.

A voice vote was taken, and there was unanimous approval of the Administrative Model Workgroup's recommendations.

Renewables Workgroup

There was discussion regarding the Model Wind Siting Ordinance, which is being developed to assist local units of government in responding to wind farm proposals. A draft model ordinance and reference guide will be forwarded to the Task Force for review and possible recommendation to the Governor.

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Michael Vickerman and Don Reck presented the Renewables Workgroup's recommendations. Questions and discussion followed, including regarding the issue of capacity credits with MAIN, implementation delay allowances, net metering issues and buyback rates. Brian Rude asked that item #11 in the recommendation be clarified to address credit eligibility for capacity improvements made to existing renewable generators after 2004. He also expressed the concern of Wisconsin cooperatives about the 6% proposal achieving a statewide renewable percentage of 10% by 2015. He said that coop members are very supportive of renewable projects, but he does not believe a mandatory provision is necessary. Cooperatives would support a statewide goal of 10% by 2015, including measures to assure that increased renewable energy is used. Jim Schott on behalf of WPS and Nino Amato on behalf of WIEG expressed a similar concern.

A voice vote was taken, and there was unanimous approval of the Renewable Workgroup's recommendations with the revision noted above.

Statutory & Regulatory Initiatives Workgroup

Brian Rude presented the Statutory & Regulatory Initiatives Workgroup's recommendations. Questions and discussion followed, including discussion of the workgroup's recommendations that were forwarded to the legislature earlier in the year and the rural energy initiatives. In discussing the bio-energy/bio-fuel coordinator position proposed for DATCP, DOA asked that the responsibilities for this new position include communication with DOA to foster agency coordination.

A voice vote was taken, and there was unanimous approval of the Statutory & Regulatory Initiatives Workgroup's recommendations.

Building Codes & Standards Workgroup

Jim Boullion presented the Building Codes & Standards Workgroup's recommendations. Questions and discussion followed, including daylighting initiatives, the benefits and drawbacks of goals vs. mandates, and the

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appropriate process by which to implement several of the workgroup's recommendations (whether through administrative rule, statute or executive order). Jim Boullion also reported that as of this time the workgroup was unable to achieve consensus regarding energy efficiency standards for certain appliances. Wisconsin Merchants Federation and the State Environmental Leadership Program agreed to work together to develop such a recommendation.

A voice vote was taken, and there was unanimous approval of the Building Codes & Standards Workgroup's recommendations. The Task Force agreed that the appliance-standards recommendation would continue to be developed and come back to the full Task Force for a vote if consensus can be reached.

Energy Efficiency Potential Study

Susan Stratton presented a short report on the status of the energy efficiency potential study. The study is looking at 36 markets for energy efficiency, with a goal of covering 80-90% of the energy efficiency potential in Wisconsin. It is also looking at the potential for customer-owned renewables. The methodology and definition of markets are currently under review. After each phase of the four-part study, the workgroup will report on its status and request input. As the study will not be completed in time for the release of the Task Force report, the workgroup will provide a status report to the Task Force Chair by August 15, 2004 with a recommendation of how to reflect the energy efficiency potential study in the final Task Force report.

Final Task Force Report

The recommendations will form the main substance of the final report. Workgroup chairs were requested to send to the Task Force chair a short memo suggesting data or graphics to be used in the final report.

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Next Task Force Meeting

The next Task Force meeting is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on September 21, 2004 in the Governor's Conference Room. The final report will be the subject of the Task Force meeting with additional discussion on the progress of the energy efficiency potential study.